

MISCELLANEOUS STUDIES IN THE COLEOPTERA,  
NUMBER THREE

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*Stanford Medical School, San Francisco, California***Blapstinus falli** Blaisdell, n. sp.

Form oblong-oval, slightly more than twice as long as wide, moderately convex. Color black; trophi, four basal joints of antennæ and legs, dark rufous; distal joints of antennæ and tarsi, rufo-piceous. Pubescence moderately abundant, inconspicuous, slender, moderately short, recumbent and fuscous in color. Wings a little longer than the elytra.

Head wider than long, a little less than half as wide as the pronotum; sides quite evenly arcuate from the tempora to the rounded epistomal angles, and moderately convergent before the eyes; epistomal apex broadly, slightly emarginate; frons evenly and less than moderately convex, evenly and rather closely punctate, punctures moderately small, more or less oval, finer anteriorly and laterally, with some evidence of coalescing in longitudinal lines, separated by a distance equal to from one-half to one times their own diameter; frontal and oblique sutures obliterated. Eyes moderately coarsely faceted, upper segment slightly unevenly circular and in diameter equal to the length of third antennal joint; lower segment larger and oval, in greatest diameter equal to the combined length of second and third antennal joints. Antennæ rather slender, moderate in length, about attaining the pronotal base; distal four joints slightly incrassate; joints two, three, and four quite cylindrical, two about two-fifths as long as three, four a fourth longer than two, five about three-fourths as long as four; five, six, and seven subequal and as long as two; eight a little wider and as long as wide; nine and ten noticeably transverse, ten one-fourth wider than long; eleven obovate, as long as three, sides converging to the truncate apex, rufous in apical half; last four joints very slightly compressed.

Pronotum less than twice as wide as long, apex truncato-emarginate between the obtusely rounded apical angles; base broadly arcuate in middle three-fifths, broadly but not deeply sinuate laterally, angles subrectangular to slightly obtuse; sides parallel, broadly, evenly and moderately arcuate, converging slightly anteriorly, marginal bead rather fine; disk evenly and moderately convex, rather densely punctate, punctures oval, larger than those of the head, slightly irregular in distribution, somewhat denser laterally where there is some coalescence in longitudinal lines; centrally the punctures are separated by a distance equal to one or two times their diameter.

Propleuræ longitudinally rugose. Pronotal margin appearing explanate when viewed from beneath, projecting in anterior three-

fourths to a distance equal to the length of the fifth antennal joint, the abruptly inflexed surface slightly convex and smooth and defined from the rugose surface by a rather sharp impressed line.

Elytra about a half longer than wide, base feebly emarginate opposite the basal pronotal lobe, slightly wider than the pronotal base; humeri obtusely rounded; sides parallel, feebly arcuate, broadly rounded at apex; disk moderately convex, less so on the dorsum; striate, striæ composed of scarcely impressed punctures in the sutural area, outer striæ feebly impressed where the intervals become very slightly convex; stria punctures about three times as large as those of the intervals and separated by a distance equal to two or three times their diameter; interstitial punctures irregular, small, separated by a distance equal to two to four times their diameter. Surface very finely and microscopically reticulate. Scutellum triangular, punctate centrally. Epipleuræ not distinctly punctate.

Undersurface of the body quite evenly punctate, punctures small, smaller on middle of the abdominal segments, the latter more or less rugulose laterally and the punctures somewhat larger; punctures not dense on the fifth segment which is more or less broadly and very feebly impressed in the central area against the apex in both sexes. Legs moderate in length and stoutness.

Male: Noticeably narrower, a little less robust. Abdomen broadly, rather abruptly and feebly impressed along the middle third of segments one and two and basal part of three, the impression subfusiform; impression of the fifth rather more strongly marked. Protarsi moderately broadly dilated, joints two and three subequal in width and transverse, second just noticeably longer than the third, length about equal to the apical width of the first; fourth small and triangular; mesotarsi feebly dilated; dilated joints densely clothed beneath with yellowish pubescence. Female: Broader and a little more robust. Abdomen moderately and evenly convex. Tarsal joints not dilated.

Measurements (types): Length, 5.1-5.4 mm.; width, 2.2-2.5 mm.

Holotype, male, No. 2515, and allotype, female, No. 2516, and five paratypes in the collection of the California Academy of Sciences; two are to be placed in the collection of Mr. H. C. Fall, Tyngsboro, Massachusetts. Nine specimens studied.

Type locality: **Naples, Santa Barbara County, California.** Collected in April, 1918, by H. C. Fall, to whom the species is dedicated.

A study of the metatarsi give the following results: Male—Second joint slightly longer than the third, together about a fourth longer than the first. Female—Second and third joints quite equal, together subequal to the first; fourth three times as long as the third and a little longer than the first.

According to Casey's table *falli* is to follow *histricus* Casey in the sequence of species. *Falli* differs from the latter in being more robust and black in color; *histricus* is elongate oval in form and brownish piceous in color. *Coronadensis* Blais. should precede *histricus* in the list of species and is to be differentiated from *falli* by its piceous color, dull luster, much less dilated protarsi of the male and coarser fulvous pubescence. In the three species the wings are slightly shorter or a little longer than the elytra. Those species of *Blapstinus* with well-developed wings are very rarely observed in flight. The author on two occasions has seen *dilatatus* Lec. in actual flight. The flight is heavy and labored.

#### **Mecomyceter liebecki** Blaisdell, n. sp.

Form oblong-ovate, a little more than twice as long as wide, sides noticeably convergent anteriorly. Color nigro-piceous; prothorax and legs rufo-testaceous; antennæ similarly pale with the three distal joints black and joints seven and eight rufo-piceous; muzzle more or less pale beneath, palpi more or less piceous, epistoma pale. Pubescence moderately abundant, short, fine, recumbent, inconspicuous and cinereo-fuscous in color, slightly more abundant and paler on the pronotum; on the elytra abundantly intermixed with darker, nearly erect setæ of similar length; the latter less evident on the pronotum; marginal fimbriæ absent in specimens examined, although very widely spaced and erect setæ are occasionally seen on the lateral pronotal and elytral margins. The pronotal disk is often blackish centro-apically, the area varying greatly in size and intensity.

Head moderately small, a little longer than wide, quite equal in width to the pronotal apex, muzzle moderately prolonged; frons flat, feebly and longitudinally impressed each side within the eyes and antennal insertions, sides not distinctly margined, fronto-antennal articulation quite visible from above; surface rather coarsely and densely punctate, interspaces with scattered punctules, coarser punctures most noticeable at sides and vertex, finer centrally and anteriorly. Eyes rather large, moderately convex, setose and moderately prominent. Basal joints of the maxillary palpi prominent each side of the base of mentum, the latter longitudinally oblong. Antennæ rather short, not attaining the pronotal base, first joint oval and rather stout, second shorter and subglobular, third feebly obconical, less than twice as long as wide; fourth and fifth a little longer than wide, sixth noticeably shorter and smaller than the fifth, seventh to tenth inclusive slightly wider than long, eleventh short obovate.

Pronotum about a third wider than long, widest and subangulate at about basal third, where the marginal bead is visible for a short

distance when viewed from above; sides rather straight and moderately convergent in anterior two-thirds, in basal third feebly arcuate to the very obtusely rounded basal angles; base moderately arcuate and beaded in middle three-fifths; apex moderately arcuate in feeble circular arc, apical angles broadly rounded with the sides; viewed from the side the marginal acute line descends arcuately on the flanks, continuing the basal line, to a point in front of the middle of the flank, then more rapidly curving upward to become arcuately continuous with the apical line; disk moderately convex, rather coarsely punctate, punctures separated by a distance equal to their diameter, a fine groove against the basal bead.

Elytra about one-half longer than wide, slightly dilated posteriorly, apex broadly rounded, slightly reëntrant at suture with the angles obtusely rounded; base distinctly wider than the pronotal base, humeri rather broadly exposed, rounded and moderately tumid; very moderately convex on the dorsum, more strongly so laterally, coarsely but not strongly punctate, punctures separated by a distance equal to one or two times their diameter, surface slightly subrugulose basally, more finely sculptured apically. Body finely punctured beneath, pubescence short, pale and recumbent. Legs moderate in length and stoutness.

Male: Usually a little smaller and narrower. Pronotum less transverse, usually with a black apical cloud attaining the apical margin and variable in size. Elytral base less noticeably wider than the pronotal base. Antennæ gradually and distinctly incrassate in distal five joints, eleventh slightly more robust than the preceding joints, ninth and tenth transverse, about a fourth wider than long, seventh and eighth smaller and very feebly transverse and more rounded. Female: Usually larger and broader. Pronotum entirely pale, more transverse, sides less noticeably convergent anteriorly. Antennæ less stout, eleventh joint less robust, usually quite equal in width to the tenth and ninth; seventh and eighth stouter and more noticeably transverse.

Measurements (types): Length, 24 to 28 mm.; width, 1 to 1.3 mm.

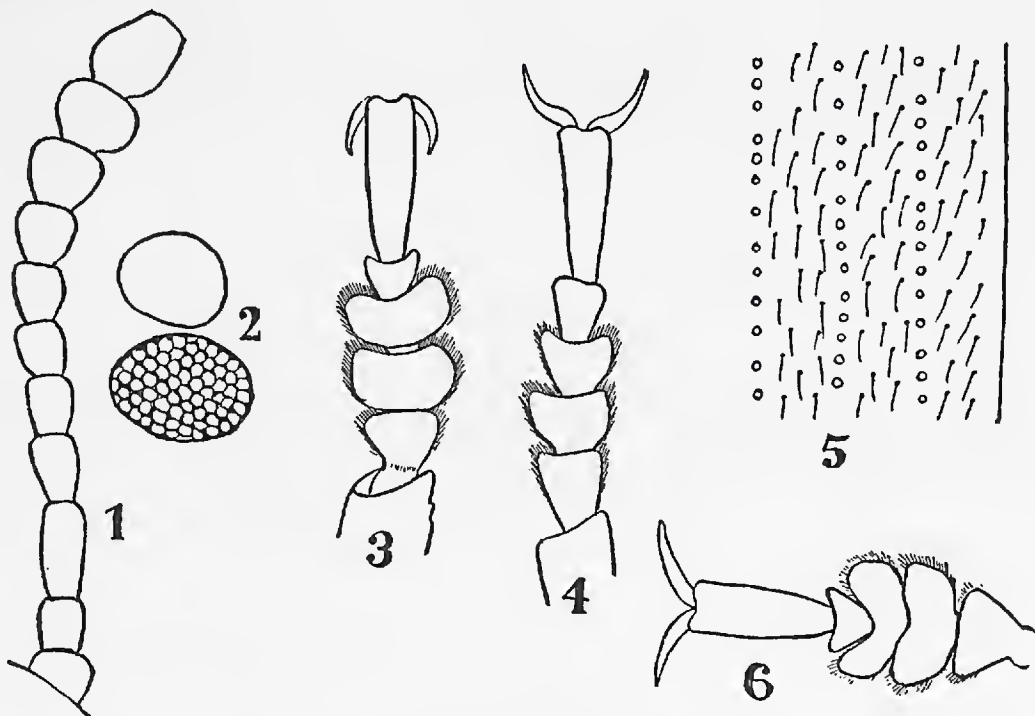
Holotype, male, No. 2517; allotype, female, No. 2518, and four paratypes, all in the collection of the California Academy of Sciences. Eight paratypes in the collection of Charles Liebeck, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to whom I am indebted for the specimens and opportunity to describe the species.

Type locality: **Laredo, Texas**. Fourteen specimens studied, collected on June 4. I take pleasure in dedicating the species to Mr. Liebeck.

*Liebecki* is very distinct in coloration from *omalinus* Horn and *facetus* Casey. *Facetus* is pale testaceous in color with some piceous clouding of the elytra, and the pronotal disk has

a black apical cloud. The muzzle is shorter in a specimen of *facetus* in the Liebeck collection than in *liebecki*. The head is missing in the type of *facetus*. In Liebeck's specimen the bases of maxillary palpi are less prominent, the mentum is oblong, smooth and truncate at apex. The edeagophore is partly protruded showing the specimen to be a male.

In *Mecomyceter* the claws are slender and without appendages. The epipleuræ are subhorizontal, moderate in width and obsolete behind the middle; the pronotum is without an impressed submarginal line. The head is very moderately prolonged before the antennal insertions, epistoma feebly chitinized, and the base of the maxillary palpi are obtusely prominent beneath.



1, Left antenna of *Blapstinus falli*, n. sp., female; 2, Left eye of *Blapstinus falli*: a, upper segment; b, lower segment; 3, Left protarsus of *Blapstinus falli*, male; 4, Right mesotarsus of *Blapstinus falli*, male; 5, Elytral sculpturing in sutural area, hairs directed backward, *Blapstinus falli*; 6, Broadly dilated protarsus of *Blapstinus rufipes* Casey.